

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

April 25, 2001 LB 536

But you know what it's like? And I've given this example, but usually with reference to myself, who will bell the cat? And I won't tell the whole story, because you know what it is. So they're very bold, they're walking on their hind legs when they leave here. They're going to troop to the Governor's office and it sounds like that 10,000 men which, if you had, you could do some great things. Then by the time they get halfway there, the noise diminishes, continues to diminish the closer they get to the Governor's lair, and that's what it begins to look like and, as would happen in a Walt Disney movie, this little mouse gets smaller and smaller, the Governor's door disappears and becomes the yawning mouth of a cave. You see two red eyes peering out of there, like rubies, incandescent, and then you see a shadowy face come, then it's not a face but it's a huge head, it's the head of tyrannosaurus rex. And you know what that little mouse does? Turns around and scampers as fast as his little mice legs will carry him, right back into the Legislature, dives under the table, and you don't see or hear from him again until the bill comes up. Then they're bold and brave again. This is going to save rural America. We got to give Sutherland this money. Ethanol is the greatest thing in the world. But they're too afraid to find out what the likely fate of their bill is. So, since the senators are scared, why don't you guys delegate somebody who supports this bill to go ask the Governor for you? Deputize somebody. (Laugh) Yeah, "Pandora" says she'll go ask him. You want "Pandora" to go ask him for you? (Laughter) Men often hide behind a woman's skirt. So I'm going to watch the cloture vote when they ask for it, then I'm going to watch how many people vote to advance the bill. You've got to get 33 for cloture, and you can probably get that just because people are put out with me. You better hope and pray you get 30. But if you only get 30, I can tell you how many of them are not going to stick. And, if I watch the names of them, I can identify the ones who won't stick. I know who the weak links are. I'm not talking about link sausage, in case Senator Janssen started opening up his icebox to meet the need that he thinks is being expressed here. There is not much time left before the hammer can fall, and some are just waiting in anticipation, because they have not had the opportunity to ask for cloture in their legislative career, and that is a high point for my colleagues. They just begin to hyperventilate almost. Be still my beating